

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long-awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations. Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

Preparation for Worship & Communion

REMEMBER YOUR FIRST LOVE

"They toiled with vigor, but not with love. They endured with fortitude but without love. They tested the message of their teachers, but had no love in their hearts...True worship is the response of man's whole personality to God's whole revelation, and if God has spoken and acted in Christ for our redemption, the most prominent quality of our response will be love."

--John Stott

"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal."

-- I Corinthians 13:1

"In this first letter the painful memory of paradise lost... is transformed into hope, as the promise points ahead to the tree of life in the new Jerusalem, bearing a different crop each month and healing the nation through its leaves."

-- Dennis Johnson

Call to Worship

There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours.

All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name.

For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.

I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever.

Psalm 86:8-12

The First Word

We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His Word: His invitation to us to gather in His name.

Invocation.

Asking God to be with us.

Invocation

Song of Adoration

STEADFAST



Adoration.

The God who meets with us in worship is good and powerful. We recognize His greatness and remember His amazing works together in song.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 136:1

Sandra McCracken Leslie Jordan Josh Silverberg (adaptations from Henri Nouwen), ©2016 Drink Your Tea Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are visiting our church for the first time, or are a regular attender or church member, we encourage you to use our online or paper <u>Keep in Touch form</u> to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church. Following the service, please introduce yourself to Pastor Steve Shelby either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

Presentation of New Members

Led by Elder Changjwok Deng (9AM) & Pastor Isaiah Thomas (10:30AM)

Elaheh Ghaeini (9AM) Aaron, Becky, Anna, Abigail, & Khalil Hartman (10:30AM)

THE Sacrament of Baptism

Administered by Pastor Kevin Greene (9AM) & Pastor Isaiah Thomas (10:30AM) Elaheh Ghaeni (9AM) Anna, Abigail, & Khalil Hartman (10:30AM)

OLD Testament Reading

Hosea 6:4-6

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.
Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Ministry of Prayer

Led by Elder Mark Crutcher

Pray for God's advancing Kingdom. For our Church, City, and World. This week...

- For West End Presbyterian Church: For grace to trust our Heavenly Father's goodness, love, and provision.
- For Metropolitan Richmond: For health care, for the dying and persons living with terminal illnesses, for their families & friends. For the sick and suffering and those who care for them. For doctors, nurses, hospice workers, medical personnel, clinics, home healthcare workers, and all who minister to the health of others.
- For God's World Mission: For KH serving with World Medical Mission in West Africa. For WEPC mission partners, CrossOver Healthcare Ministry and Bloom, as they provide high quality healthcare for people in need in the name of Jesus Christ. wepc.org/outreach/missions

Offering

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. Please visit www.wepc.org/giving or scan the QR code for online giving options, or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).



The offering isn't just about money. Our response to the Gospel goes much deeper; God demands our whole selves. The act of giving in worship is a part of offering ourselves as "living sacrifices" to God (Romans 12:1).

O DAY OF PEACE



"The kingdom of the world has become the Kingdom of our Lord." Revelation 11:15

Carl P. Daw (1982); Tune: Josh Garrels; ©1982 Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP) / ©2016 Josh Garrels Small Voice LLC (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #708363 "But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'" Matthew 19:14

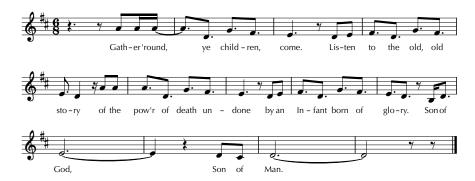
Andrew Peterson ©2005 New Springs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Used by permission. CCLI #708363

CHILDRen's WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from Room 121. www.wepc.org/grow/children

CHILDRen's Blessing (10:30am)

GATHER ROUND YE CHILDREN, COME



GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

Scripture Reading

Revelation 2:1-7

¹"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. ²"'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'"

Sermon

A Worship Guide with sermon questions is posted each Sunday at https://wepc.org/worship/sermons-media. You can also find the sermon audio on Apple Podcasts and Spotify under "West End Presbyterian Church RVA."

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

I Corinthians 11:23-26

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, to know You is Life itself, and the satisfaction of our most ardent desires. Yet foolishly we have set our affections elsewhere. We have given ourselves to the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have run after deadly idols of our own making, and forsaken You. We have failed to love You with our whole heart, soul, and mind. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves, and there is no health in us. Forgive us our sins for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Renew Your beloved Bride, Your Church, as You have redeemed her. Amen.

Confession & Encouragement
Often we find that our hearts
worship something other than
God. In confessing our sins, the
Holy Spirit probes our hearts
and minds and graciously shows
us what we mistakenly believe
will give us life. Jesus is good to
lead us from sorrow over our sin
to the sweetness of His grace.

Silent Confession of Sin

Words of Chcouragement

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

I John 3:1

THE Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

First Communion

Anna, Abigail, & Khalil Hartman (10:30 AM)

Anna, Abigail, and Khalil recently met with the Elders, who heard their testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Hartman family to receive communion first.

West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel, to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us. The Elders presiding over the Supper are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

At each communion station, grape juice is served in purple cups, wine is served in clear cups, and gluten-free bread is served in a separate tray.

At the center aisle station, double-cups are also available, where the small gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Again, grape juice is in the purple cups and wine is in the clear cups. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see www.wepc.org/communion.

If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST



"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy." Jude 24

Ada R. Habershon (1906);Tune: ©2013 Getty Music Publishing, Matthew Merker Music. Used by permission. CCLI #708363

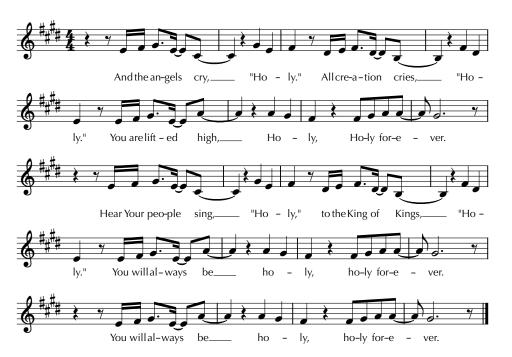
"For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more." Isaiah 30:19

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore © 2015 Drink Your Tea (ASCAP), Joshmooreownsthis Music (ASCAP) Used by permission. CCLI #708363

WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION



HOLY FOREVER



"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" Revelation 4:8

©2022 Be Essential Songs, Simply Global, Phil Wickham Music, My Magnolia Music (Admin by Essential Music Publishing) Brian & Jenn Johnson Music, Bethel Music Publishing (Admin by Bethel Music Publishing) S.D.G. Publishing, Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI #708363 "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD." Psalm 150:6

> Text: Thomas Ken (1709) Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (Bourgeois, 1551)

What does
"doxology" mean?
It's derived from two
Greek words meaning
"glory" and "word."
A doxology, then, is a
spoken word or song
that ascribes glory to
God. Today's doxology
calls all of creation
to praise God as the
source of all blessing
and acknowledges His
Trinitarian (three-inone) nature.

Doxology



The Last Word
God always has the last
word in our worship.
For those who are
in Christ Jesus, these
are always words of
blessing.

Benediction

A team is available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the 9 AM & 10:30 AM services.

Pastor Steve Shelby preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. Elder & Neighborhood Outreach Director Changjwok Deng led worship. Pastor Kevin Greene, Sonya & Donald Smith, Sarah Jurewicz, Kim Forquer, Tucker Tetterton, Suzie Bird, and Jake Bruning led this morning's congregational singing. Ross Bruning and Deacon Chris May managed today's audio and video live stream. Micah Andrews managed the in-house video system.

Sermon Notes

announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: 9 AM / Room 810 One Small Step / Last class TODAY, Jan 19 Join us as we talk about community. Led by Ion Greenill.

Batter My Heart

January 26 & February 2
Join us as we look at the poetry of John Donne, a 17th century English writer and pastor.
Donne uses beautiful verse to explore the topics of faith and mortality, helping us see even more clearly the beauty of the gospel.
Led by Steve Shelby (steve@wepc.org).

Young Adult Ministry

Meets every other Thursday / 7 PM Next Meeting: January 30 Young Adults at WEPC is for those in their 20s & 30s looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. Contact: Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org)

Wednesday Night Fellowship: The Cross-Shaped Life

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays through April 2 / 6-7:30 PM / Chapel The Cross of Christ is the heart of God and the way we live as disciples. Led by Kevin Greene, Brian Wilcox, and Becca Wethered. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies

Join us as we continue studying the Sermon on the Mount. New women are welcome. Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

2025 Women's Retreat

www.wepc.org/grow/women
March 1 at 9 AM - March 2 at 11 AM
Roslyn Retreat Center
Registration is now open!
\$150 (Early Registration) through Jan. 31
\$180 (Late Registration) Feb. 1 - Feb.14
Contact: Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays

- **9 ÅM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old)
- 10:30 AM: Núrsery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Message or Worship (4 years-2nd grade; Children's Worship does not meet on the 1st Sunday of the month. Instead, there will be a Children's Message during the 10:30 AM worship service.)
- Nursing Mom¹s Room (service audio available during both services)

Kids Club

Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM / Kindergarten-5th Grade Join us for Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship!

Volunteers Needed: 1-2 Female Nursery Workers for 9 AM Service (1x every 8 weeks)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

• Sunday School: 9 AM / Youth Lounge

• Youth Group: January 22

• Homework Time: Tuésdays / 6-8 PM

Neighborhood Outreach Ministry

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Bible Study

2nd & 4th Sundays / 5-6:30 PM / Room 810 Next Meeting: January 26 Join our multicultural community twice a month as we meet to study the Bible using the book of Acts. Contact: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@ wepc.org)

FOOD Pantry

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Please continue to check our <u>weekly list</u> to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

Food Item Teams:

Reach for Team Peach! (canned peaches) Give the Fry Team a try! (oil & salt) Team Garbanzo, you rock! (dry or canned) Way to Go, Team Tomato! (canned tomatoes) Shine! Join Team Star Baker! (flour & sugar)

General information

Deacons of the Week

Stan Cover, Matt Mailloux, & Tim Berry

Welcome Talya Tacosa-O'Dea to WEPC Staff! Please join us in welcoming Talya as our new Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator. She will be coordinating the Tutoring Program, Tuesday Night Kids' Club, Summer Track Camp, and supporting the overall ministry of Neighborhood Outreach. We are grateful for God's provision.

WEPC Revelation Sermon Series Spotify Playlist Check out our Revelation Sermon Series Spotify Playlist to sing along to songs that remind us of the glory of Jesus, our King, His faithfulness to His Church, and His coming Kingdom. You can find it by searching "WEPC Revelation Sermon Series" or "West End Presbyterian RVA + playlists."

Join us for the James River Presbytery Church Planting Summit!

Feb 2 / 5:30-7:15 PM / City Church of Richmond Interested in hearing more about our ministry of starting new churches across Metro Richmond and the surrounding region? Everyone is welcome to join us as we learn about church-planting initiatives, collaborate on future opportunities to reach communities with the Gospel, and pray for the Spirit's leading in multiplying congregations. Food and drink provided. RSVP: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Night to Shine 2025

February 7 / WEPC

Join us for a prom-night experience centered on God's love for people with disabilities. Registration is now open for guests & volunteers at www.nighttoshinerva.com We need many volunteers to help, from buddies to dining room servers, welcome team, and more! Contact: Blair Brown (blairmb@gmail.com) or Heather Jarvis (heather.p.jarvis@gmail.com) or visit the table in the Gallery to learn more!

Inclement Weather Reminder

For updates on closings and delays, visit wepc.org or call the office at (804) 741-6562. You may also visit the "Community Closings" page at nbc12.com. In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, WEPC will meet for the 10:30 AM service.

2025 DivorceCare Men & Women's Group

Tuesdays, Feb 4 - Apr 29 / 7:30-9 PM / Room 810 Join us for a 13-week Christ-centered program addressing the complexity of life when facing marital separation or divorce. The program includes video teaching from over 50 leading Christian counselors, teachers, and pastors, group discussion, and personal Bible study. Register at www.divorcecare.org/findagroup, and click on the "More Info" tab for West End Presbyterian Church. Contact: Bryan Finch (Bryanlfinch@gmail.com) or Matt Osenga (Osengam@hotmail.com) or Matt Osenga (Osengam@hotmail.com)

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 1/12/2025): Operating gifts YTD: \$1,406,295.16 Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,504,861.24 % of expected budget received: 93.45%

Keep in Touch

Especially if this is your first Sunday with us —welcome!



Date:			
Name:			
Children's Names:			
Address:			
City:			
Phone:			
Email:			
Who invited you to WEPC	? How did you	first hear abo	ut us?

♦ Check if this is <u>NEW</u> contact information for you.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- ♦ Visitor <u>Age</u>
- ♦ Male ♦ 20 or younger
- ♦ Female
 ♦ Single
 ♦ Student (Grade ___)
 ♦ Student (College)
 ♦ 50-64
- ♦ Student (College)♦ Married♦ 65 and older
- ♦ Parent♦ Widowed

I would like info about:

- ♦ WEPC
- ♦ Women's Ministry
- ♦ Men's Ministry
- ♦ Childrens Ministry
- ♦ Youth Ministry
- ♦ Adult Classes
- ♦ Home Groups
- ◊ Neighborhood Outreach
- ♦ Becoming a member of WEPC
- ♦ Other:
- ♦ Please include me on the WEPC email list.
- ♦ I am interested in learning more about becoming a Christian.

Prayer Requests:

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and forgiving me. I run from my sins—my old life living for myself—and receive you as Savior. Amen.